

the rate of 115.58. New stock was sold to replace the government stock, leaving the capital intact at \$35,000,000. The capital was too large for local commercial needs and Biddle branched out into loans on stocks of uncertain value, many of which proved worthless after the crisis of 1837. The bank suspended at that time with the other banks of the country, but was compelled to suspend again in 1838, and again in 1841, after which it went into liquidation. The creditors were paid, but the shareholders lost their entire interest. Biddle had resigned in March, 1839, leaving the bank, according to his view, in a prosperous condition. He was indicted during the liquidation for conspiracy to defraud the shareholders. The indictment was quashed, but Biddle was ruined financially and died within five years insolvent and broken-hearted.¹

The principal items in the accounts of the second Bank of the United States up to the time of its final suspension are shown in the following table :

YEAR.	LOANS.	DEPOSITS.	CIRCULATION.	SPECIE.
	\$31,401,158	\$ 6,568,704	\$ 3,598,481	\$ 3,392,755
1820		16,045,782	12,024,145	7,608,076
1830	40,663,805	10,838,555	19,208,379	10,039,237
1834	54,911,461	11,756,905	17,339,797	15,708,369
1835	51,808,739	5,061,456	23,075,422	8,417,988
1836	59,232,445	2,332,409	11,447,968	2,638,449
1837	57,393,709	2,616,713	6,768,067	3,770,842
1838	45,256,571	6,779,394	5,982,621	4,153,607
1839	41,618,637	3,338,521	6,695,861	1,469,674
1840	36,839,593			

The present method of dealing with public monies in the United States is one of the results of the war over the United States Bank. Secretary Taney, under Jackson's instructions, deposited public money in certain State banks,—most of them selected because their officers were friendly to the administration and characterized by its critics as the "pet banks." The government imposed upon them the conditions of giving security in certain cases, of issuing no small

¹ Sumner, *Andrew Jackson*, 342.